

"We will show strong leadership on the issues middle class families care about most"

Washington, DC - Rep Bruce Braley (D-Iowa) issued the following statement today in response to President Barack Obama's State of the Union Address:

"Tonight's speech by President Obama underscores what many of us in Congress have been saying all along: the key to a full recovery is to strengthen America's middle class by investing in small businesses, job growth, and infrastructure development while also finding ways to pay down our national deficit.

"Tonight, President Obama outlined an agenda that gives middle class families many of the tools they need to recover, while also making oil companies, hedge fund managers and the richest 1% of Americans finally pay their fair share.

"I was especially pleased to hear President Obama's ideas to spur job creation by investing in Iowa's small businesses and communities.

In the past year, we cut more than 25 taxes for middle class families and I applaud President Obama's for supporting the elimination of capital gains taxes for small businesses and a temporary payroll tax credit for businesses who hire unemployed workers.

"America's families can no longer afford inaction. I hope that tonight's speech sends a clear signal to middle class Americans that we hear their concerns about the direction of our country and that we will show strong leadership on the issues they care about most."